

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/708,241

Examiner

Patricia L Engle

Applicant(s)

STURT ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment filed on February 20, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 10-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2/18/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Patricia Engle  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3612  
August 20, 2004

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### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bruce Harang on August 20, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claim 20;

Please re-write claim 10 as follows:

10. A retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly for automobile sun visor hinges comprising:

a leaf spring,

a housing member symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said housing having a generally U shape, the ~~longitudinal ends of said~~ U shape housing member having:

a first plurality of openings spacedly located ~~therein~~ on longitudinal ends of said U shape housing, and further having first inwardly facing tabs located on each of said first plurality of openings, and

a second plurality of openings spacedly located ~~therein~~ inward of the longitudinal ends of said U shape housing and further having second inwardly facing tabs located

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on each of said second plurality of openings, ~~said second plurality inwardly facing tabs positioned to correspond with the plurality of openings in the saddle; and~~

~~a leaf spring,~~

a saddle member[[,]] ~~being shorter in length than said housing member and the leaf spring, and~~ symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said saddle member having a generally flattened U shape and further being shorter in length than said housing member and said leaf spring, the longitudinal ends of said flattened U shape having a plurality of openings spacedly located therein and further located to correspond to the second plurality of openings in said housing member; and

whereby said retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly being held together as a single unit by ~~said housing member tabs projecting inwardly~~ said second inwardly facing tabs aligning with the plurality of openings in the saddle member and the leaf spring being supported by the first inwardly facing tabs.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this application is that the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest a retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly including a housing with a first plurality of openings spacedly located in the longitudinal ends of the U-shaped housing with first inwardly facing tabs and a second plurality of openings with second inwardly facing tabs, a saddle member with a plurality of openings spacedly located in the longitudinal ends of the U-shaped saddle member which align with the second plurality of openings in the housing and a leaf spring, wherein the retaining leaf spring sun visor detent is held together as a single unit by said second inwardly facing tabs aligning with the plurality of openings in the saddle member

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and the leaf spring being supported by the first inwardly facing tabs, in combination with the other elements recited.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Patricia L Engle whose telephone number is (703) 306-5777.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, D. Glenn Dayoan can be reached on (703) 308-3102. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.



Patricia L Engle  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3612

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August 20, 2004